



### REMARKS

Claims 1 - 21 are pending in the application. Claims 5 and 11 have been amended. New claim 21 has been added.

The Examiner objects the present set of claims under 35 USC §103(a) as being obvious over *Kramer '427* (US 5,462,427) in view of *Heldt* (DE 297 06 270 U1). Both the inventor and assignee of *Kramer '427* are identical to the inventor and assignee of present application. In addition, both *Kramer '427* and the present invention are in the same technical field. Specifically, both *Kramer* and the present invention deal with rotary tablet presses.

*Heldt* is non analogous art. One skilled in the art of rotary tablet presses would not consider *Heldt*. *Heldt* deals with a scraper as a seal between a piston rod and a hydraulic cylinder. One skilled in the art of rotary tablet presses would know that it is impossible to use hydraulic cylinders to perform the stamping procedure to produce the tablets. Thus, there is no teaching or suggestion to combine *Kramer '427* with *Heldt* and in fact, the art teaches away from that combination.

The object of the present invention is to make it possible that rotary tablet presses, comprising normally 25 to 50 upper and lower stamps guided in stamp guide discs which discs rotate with the die table, may be equipped with different kinds of upper and lower stamps as well as sealing elements regardless of the shape of the stamp shaft. Within a rotary tablet press, a set of stamps (25 – 50 upper stamps and 25 – 50 lower stamps) are used for a period of time to manufacture a specific tablet. To produce tablets with another geometry and/or with other pharmaceutical ingredients, all stamps, (all 25 - 50 upper stamps and all 25 - 50 lower stamps) are removed from the stamp guide discs and other stamps with different stamp heads are substituted for the removed. In a rotary tablet press, it is absolutely impossible to use hydraulic cylinders to perform the stamping procedure to produce the tablets.

The present independent claims clearly define that the stamp sealing element has an undercut by means of which the sealing element can be releasably attached to a holding collar. *Kramer '427*, alone or in combination with *Heldt* does not teach or suggest a rotary tablet press with all the limitations of claims 1 – 21.

The Examiner asserts that *Heldt* discloses a "sealing mechanism for reciprocating rods". However, Applicant respectfully asserts that the hydraulic cylinders of *Heldt* are not used in a reciprocating manner as in a tablet press but rather make a stroke from time to time and return to their initial position. Therefore, as neither hydraulic cylinders may be used on rotary tablet presses nor the rods of hydraulic cylinders are comparable to upper and lower stamps in a rotary tablet press, *Heldt* would not be considered by a person skilled in the art in the field of rotary tablet presses.



The sealing element 1 of *Hedlt* (See, Heldt Figure 1) is not designed in such a way that it is "easily attachable and replaceable" from the cylinder. Instead, as is shown in Figure 1 of *Hedlt*, there is shown in a broken line to the right of numeral 14 a screw fixture between part 14 and part of the cylinder. The sealing element of Figure 1 of *Hedlt* may only be removed if part 14, which is part of the closing head of the cylinder, is removed from the cylinder. Accordingly, Kramer alone or in combination with Heldt does not teach or suggest a rotary tablet press with all the limitations of the independent claims. Thus, claims 1 - 21 are patentable.

### CONCLUSION

Applicant asserts that the Examiner's objections have been obviated. Applicant therefore respectfully requests withdrawal of those objections, and an early indication of allowance of this application.

Accompanying this response is a check for \$25 to cover the cost of the additional claim.

Respectfully submitted,

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### CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313. on September 2, 2005.

  
Anna Marzullo